

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06 DODE-00

ERDA-05 PM-04 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-01 COME-00 FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01

SAM-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

SIL-01 AGRE-00 /145 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9461

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR FR IR

SUBJ: GISCARD D'ESTAING'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN TEHRAN
OCTOBER 7

1. PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE AT HIS GOLESTAN PALACE RESIDENCE MORNING OCTOBER 7 WHICH WAS CONDUCTED ENTIRELY IN FRENCH. FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS PROVIDED EMBASSY BY LOCAL (UPI AND AP) JOURNALISTS WHO ATTENDED. WE SHALL FILL IN FURTHER DETAILS AFTER CHANCE TO CONFER WITH FRENCH EMBASSY FOLLOWING LOCAL WEEKEND.

2. MAJOR PROJECTS WHICH WERE "CONCLUDED" FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE WERE: (A) TWO NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS (VALUE GIVEN AS 14 BILLION FRANCS, EIGHT BILLION OF THAT IN IMPORTS FROM FRANCE) (B) THE CONSTRUCTION OF A THERMAL POWER PLANT AT TABRIZ (VALUE ONE BILLION FRANCS) (C) CONSTRUCTION DOUBLE-TRACK

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RAILROAD FROM TABRIZ TO BANDAR SHAHPUR (VALUE 12 BILLION

FRANCS, EIGHT BILLION IN IMPORTS FROM FRANCH) AND PARTICI-
PATION WITH AMERICAN FIRMS IN PARALLEL HIGHWAY (D) THE
CONSTRUCTION OF 15,000 HOUSING UNITS (VALUE ONE BILLION
FRANCS)--PROBABLY IN PERSIAN GULF AREA.

3. PROJECTS ON WHICH AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED "IN
PRINCIPLE:- (A) SIX MORE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS (VALUE 30-35
BILLION FRANCS, OF WHICH 20-23 BILLION IN IMPORTS FROM
FRANCE) (B) JOINT VENTURE WITH IRANIAN COMPANY TO BUILD
PEUGEOT CAR PLANT TO PRODUCE 18,000 CARS BY 1978, RISING
TO 100,000 CARS BY 1980 OR 1982 (VERSIONS DIFFER) (C)
STUDIES TO BEGIN ON SALE OF FRENCH AIR BUS TO IRAN
(THIS CONNECTION, GISCARD REPORTEDLY KNOCKED DOWN SPECULA-
TION ON CONCORDE SALES) (D) SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AGREE-
MENT BETWEEN PASTEUR INSTITUTES IN PARIS AND TEHRAN,
LEADING EVENTUALLY TO 25 FRENCH SCIENTISTS COMING TO
TEHRAN (E) TELEPHONE SYSTEM PROJECT TO BE INCLUDED IN
SIXTH IRANIAN FIVE-YEAR PLAN (BEGINNING NEXT YEAR).

4. TOTAL OF ABOVE CONCLUDED PROJECTS GIVEN AS 29 BILLION
FRANCS OF WHICH 17 BILLION FRANCS OF IMPORTS FROM FRANCE.
TOTAL OF ALL PROJECTS TOGETHER GIVEN AS 60 BILLION FRANCS,
OF WHICH 40 BILLION FRANCS IN IMPORTS FROM FRANCE.

5. NO MENTION MADE OF EEC AGREEMENT, BUT THIS AND OTHER
SUBJECTS MAY FIGURE IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE TO BE ISSUED LATER
THIS AFTERNOON.

6. GISCARD SAID THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF PRICE OF OIL,
BUT THAT WOULD BE SET IN NORTH-SOUTH CONFERENCE MEETINGS
COMING DECEMBER AND JANUARY. HE AGREED WITH SHAH THAT
WORLD MONETARY SYSTEM IS OUTDATED. HE DISAGREED ON INDEXATION
OF OIL PRICES BUT AGREED SOME MEANS SHOULD BE FOUND TO
INCREASE PURCHASING POWER OF RAW MATERIAL PRODUCERS. SWAP
OF OIL FOR GOODS WAS DISCUSSED, BUT GISCARD GAVE NO DETAILS.
FRANCE IS AT PRESENT IMPORTING 15 MILLION TONS OF OIL FROM
IRAN. IRAN HAS ASKED FRANCE FOR GUARANTEE OF FUTURE
QUANTITIES IT WILL BUY EACH YEAR.

7. TWO CHIEFS OF STATE DISCUSSED JOINT FRANCE-IRAN INVEST-
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MENT IN THIRD COUNTRIES (NO DETAILS GIVEN).

8. IN REPLY TO OTHER QUESTIONS, GISCARD TOOK FAMILIAR
POSITIONS, BACKING IRANIAN POLICY THAT DEFENSE OF INDIAN
OCEAN SHOULD BE RESPONSIBILITY OF LITTORAL STATES, AND
EXPRESSING GENERAL WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST IN LEBANESE CRISIS.

9. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM INDIAN JOURNALIST, GISCARD

REPORTEDLY SAID FRANCE WILL HONOR ITS NUCLEAR DEAL WITH
PAKISTAN DESPITE ANY EXPRESSIONS OF DISAPPROVAL FROM OTHERS.

10. ABOVE PROVIDED ON SECONDHAND BASIS; CONFIRMATION WILL
BE OBTAINED WHEN WE CAN TALK TO APPROPRIATE FRENCH AND
IRANIAN OFFICIALS.
HELMS

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